

Title of Session: Math and Technology
Moderator: David Weksler
Title of File: 20050816mathtech
Date: August 16, 2005

Room: After School Online Room

LynetteCS joined the room.

BJB2: hi, Lynette.

LynetteCS: hello

BJB2: you're here for Math and Tech?

LynetteCS: I am

LynetteCS: I used to teach math and now teach technology and am required to attend a tapped in session for a course I'm taking - so this looked like the one for me.

BJB2: great...we'll start in a couple minutes.

JeffC: Who is your professor Lynette?

BJB2: While we wait to see if anyone else is joining us...

LynetteCS: Kim LeBlanc

BJB2: a reminder to go to the ACTIONS menu in the top right of your chat window and click on DETACH

BJB2: that will make your chat window larger and easier to read

DavidWe appreciates everyone's patience

BJB2: we usually start all discussions in Tapped In with introductions. Please tell us where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

DavidWe: Let us know, also, if you are new to Tapped In, or somewhat experienced

JeffC: I'm in Oregon and also on Helpdesk.

DawnBat: I am in San Diego. I teach 5th grade Math and Social Studies and have just begun my Technology Master's program

LynetteCS: Slidell, LA (but still consider myself to be from Tennessee) Elementary technology

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I'm in New Jersey and Bj and Jeff and I have been using Tapped In for more than 7 years. I used to work with the Math Forum - www.mathforum.org

EmilyW: I am in Texas, also on helpdesk, I hope to design/develop math websites

LynetteCS: I am new to Tapped In

DawnBat: so am I

DavidWe: Thanks, Lynette, Dawn. We'll help guide you along as well. Emily, Bj, Jeff and I are also HelpDesk volunteers

DawnBat: Great

DavidWe: Gail is Gail Hoskins and she'll be joining us (really) in a few minutes, I guess

DavidWe: Dawn, Lynette, take time to look around the web page - if you have detached your chat area (as Bj suggested) you'll need to arrange your windows so you can see at least part of both windows

LynetteCS: okay

DawnBat: Got it

BJB2: is everyone still here?

EmilyW: yes

DawnBat: Yes, I'm here

BJB2: David seems to have lost his connection

LynetteCS: yes

DavidWe left the room (signed off).

BJB2: While we wait to see if David gets back to us

BJB2: Perhaps Jeff can tell us about the other math group in Tapped In?

GailH returns to the session.

BJB2 . o O (and of course, David would frown if we didn't mention www.mathforum.org)

BJB2: Jeff's group is the Math K-20 Resources group

BJB2 wonders if Jeff is multitasking?

DavidWe joined the room.

DavidWe: Sorry about that folks...

BJB2 cheers wildly

GailH waves to David!

DavidWe: Strange behavior on my Macintosh

BJB2 . o O (I wasn't tap dancing very well)

DavidWe appreciates someone playing the Striptease song while Bj tap danced

GailH . o O (I really missed something!)

DavidWe: Okay, so...now that Gail is here...and I don't have to continue stalling

GailH . o O (Gail is embarrassed!)

BJB2: David is having tech difficulties again...

GailH: Maybe I can intro myself?

GailH: Tardy is better than not at all....

BJB2: he asked me to have you all go to www.mathforum.org/mathtools after Gail introduces herself

GailH: I am Gail Hoskins, senior outreach coordinator for Eisenhower National Clearinghouse <http://www.enc.org> . We have been around for 13 years, funded by the US Department of Education. That funding will end 9/29/05. ENC is located in Columbus, OH. I am a former high school math teacher and K-12 math coordinator -- and I am currently looking for a job!

BJB2: Gail has been a member of Tapped In for many years and has always led some wonderful discussions on Math as well as science and special ed

DavidWe left the room (signed off).

DavidWe joined the room.

GailH: I have one on Thursday evening (this week).

DavidWe: Sorry, folks. It's not even raining in New Jersey

DavidWe wonders what he missed

DawnBat left the room (signed off).

DavidWe: Oh, gee. Sorry about that Dawn

DavidWe hopes Lynette can hang in there with these technical problems

BJB2: ahh...thanks for the reminder, Gail! Thursday at 7pm EDT/4pm PDT

DawnBat joined the room.

DavidWe wonders WHAT is happening then

DavidWe: Welcome back, Dawn

GailH: It is about our Making Schools Work (equity) product.

DavidWe: Oh, great

DavidWe hopes he can tell people a few things

DavidWe: Before getting disconnected again

DawnBat: Thank you.

BJB2: I showed the math forum url, David, but perhaps we should repeat?

DavidWe: Dawn, Lynette, if I can ask you to say a bit more about what your expectations are, why you logged in to Tapped In, what sorts of things you are hoping to learn about, experience, etc.

DavidWe nods to BJ

DavidWe: Thanks, Bj

BJB2: www.mathforum/mathtools

SusanR joined the room.

DavidWe: Before you all click on that URL...hi Susan...

DavidWe: If you wouldn't mind saying a bit about what would be in your "pot of gold" as teachers...

DawnBat: I am in a class at San Diego State for the Educational Technology Master's program, and my professor has introduced this to me.

DavidWe hopes that metaphor works

DavidWe: Who is that, at SDSU, Dawn?

DawnBat: Roberto DelBusto

DavidWe nods

DavidWe: Thanks

DavidWe: Lynette?

DavidWe: While Lynette is typing or thinking, I wanted to mention a little bit about the Math Forum MathTools web site that Bj mentioned

TillieC joined the room.

LynetteCS: I am taking an on-line course that has us exploring this site. As I stated earlier I used to teach math and now teach technology so this looked like the session for me to attend,

DavidWe: There was a very interesting discussion at 1pm EDT today with some people, in Tapped In, about the MathTools - a very large collection of largely online resources for teaching specific concepts - they are mostly JAVA applets

DavidWe: Thanks, Lynette. I appreciate your mentioning that

LynetteCS: I believe

SusanR: technology to what grade levels, Lynette

DavidWe: There is a group of teachers trying to use the MathTools (there are thousands of small, specific applets that have been developed)

EmilyW: wow, never seen this part of the math forum before

DavidWe smiles

LynetteCS: I believe Tilly that just walked in and then left is also in my class. I teach K - 5.

DavidWe: We'll see if Bj can guide Tillie back in here

SusanR: I subscribe to the math tools newsletter..most worthwhile

DavidWe thanks Lynette for mentioning it

GailH: Math Tools is funded as a NSDL project (national science digital library).

DawnBat: Those are found in the mathforum.org website?

DavidWe: In any event, there is an interest in both discussing the mathtools themselves (do they work, are they effective with students, etc.)...

SusanR: how to integrate these tools is the focus ...with concrete teacher tested ideas

DavidWe: www.mathforum.org/mathtools

DavidWe: Yes, Dawn

DavidWe: In addition, there is an interest in developing STORIES about using mathtools - an interesting idea in and of itself - as well as having teachers rate them, give them a grade

EmilyW: sounds very interesting

DavidWe nods

DavidWe: Yes. There was a small turnout this afternoon, but I was glad to be part of it

TillieC joined the room.

DavidWe: Applets exist for all grade levels for many different topics and hopefully they are organized in a sensible way, making it easy to find the "tool" you are looking for

GailH: Dawn, you are a middle school teacher, right?

DavidWe: Welcome, Tillie

DavidWe: Registering on the main MathTools page is worthwhile, you get a limited number of announcements

DawnBat: We are considered a middle school, but my students are in 5th grade. It's a pretty interesting set -up

GailH: May I give a specific url on math tools for that grade, please?

DavidWe: Do you know about the NSDL - National Science Digital Library?

DavidWe: Please do, Gail

TillieC: help, I'm trying to join the discussion in the after school online room. how do I do that?

GailH: <http://mathforum.org/mathtools/cell/m5,ALL,tool,hh/> is what I'd suggest

DavidWe: You are in the right place, Tillie. Welcome

TillieC: oh Great

DawnBat: I am unaware of the NSDL

DavidWe: Want to quickly mention where you are, Tillie, and what you teach?

DavidWe: I'll get to that in a second, Dawn

DavidWe thanks Gail for the URL

SusanR: I used the fraction tools with a spec ed math class..to extend and enrich her program..she was delighted with the results

SusanR listens to Gail

GailH . o O (Those are ALL grade 5 math tools that have applets.)

DavidWe encourages Tillie to jump right in with a quick introduction

TillieC: I'm in Louisiana and teach 4th grade ELA and social studies

DavidWe: Again, welcome, Tillie. We're all glad that you could join us, this evening

DavidWe: Gail, do you have a good, brief description of NSDL?

TillieC: This is my first live chat, so please be patient with me. I'm new

DavidWe: You've got friends here, Tillie. Lots of guides on the side

TillieC: Great thanks a bunch

DavidWe nods

GailH: It is funded by NSF and has a lot of projects that are "separate" -- ENC has one for middle school math & science. There is an "umbrella" that they are all under.

DavidWe . o O (National Science Foundation == NSF)

DavidWe . o O (Eisenhower National Clearinghouse - www.enc.org == ENC)

DavidWe checks on whether everyone knows about ENC

GailH . o O (and I may be wrong in some of what I am saying.)

TillieC: I know you probably already covered this but what is NSDL? is it National Science for Distant Learning

DavidWe: There has been a tremendous amount of work developing, cataloguing, categorizing online resources in many subject areas

DavidWe . o O (National Science Digital Library)

DavidWe: www.nsd.org

TillieC: WOW

DavidWe: The URLs (websites) are clickable in Tapped In - if you don't get a new window when you click on one of those addresses (and you are using Windows) hold down the Control key when you click

DawnBat: Thank you, that solves my problem

TillieC: I love science and math, but haven't taught it for 2 years now. Although I did National Certification in the area of middle childhood generalist and it required an entry in science and math. So I incorporated the environmental aspect into the social studies lessons

DavidWe: What I was most interested in sharing with you all, briefly, this evening, is my interest in the IDEA of having teachers tell/write/communicate stories about teaching - situations, methods, experiences, etc.

DavidWe: That's great, Tillie

EmilyW: I think it is a great idea

EmilyW: (especially for blog entries)

DavidWe: We on the science and math side of things have been working very hard to make more math and science integrateable into curricula K-20

SusanR: a reflective journal, David

DavidWe nods

SusanR . o O (a reflective math journal)

DavidWe: There was a wonderful book published early in my Internet education career by Wested called, "Tales from the Electronic Frontier" - a slim volume of teachers' stories about using the Internet in classrooms, almost 10 years ago

TillieC: this year I'm trying to incorporate a technology journal for all students. That will be difficult, but hopefully doable.

GailH: That was a classic -- and USED to be online too.

DavidWe: The challenge for math teachers in high school (especially in high school) is finding the VALUE in having students write about what they are learning, in addition to the content of the math courses

DavidWe nods to Gail

DavidWe: I tried to reach Mayumi Shinohara (the editor of "Tales") today, in fact...

SusanR: math journals were a required item..when I taught grade 2

GailH: Here is info ABOUT that wonderful book:

<http://www.enc.org/resources/records/full/0,1240,004277,00.shtm>

DavidWe: The teachers participating in the MathTools discussion earlier today in Tapped In were mostly high school folks and this idea of reflective journals is tough to find time for

LynetteCS: If the book was published 10 years ago - is it outdated as far as technology usage?

DavidWe thanks Gail for another great ENC URL

GailH: The ideas are wonderful!

DavidWe: The technology may be somewhat outdated, Lynette...but...

GailH: but <see David's comment>

DavidWe: The way the teachers USE the technology is very fresh - it is what made it very valuable in the first place

TillieC: some of the technology is probably out dated , but many of the ideas may not be

DavidWe: The rationale for using the Internet needs to be compelling

TillieC: I'm sure they could be adapted to meet today's tech

LynetteCS: Gail, I've been exploring with the manipulatives on the MathTools url that you provided. These are great.

DavidWe: They are just good teaching "cases" - and hearing the teachers talk about how they dealt with problems (having only one computer, for example) makes you realize the value of hearing the stories

DavidWe is glad that people are finding the MathTools website useful

DavidWe wants to mention a couple of things about Tapped In to Tillie, Lynette and Dawn

DavidWe: Have you all found the Tapped In Calendar of Events, yet?

DawnBat: Yes

DavidWe hopes Jeff, Gail and Bj may chime in about specific events

TillieC: yes that is how I found about this chat

LynetteCS: Yes, that's were I obtained the information for this session

DavidWe: Great, that's good to know

TillieC: I was just confused about how to enter into the conversation

DavidWe: So, there is a monthly K-20 math (and also science) discussion that Jeff Cooper (Jeff C) leads

DavidWe: No problem, Tillie. It's always a challenge the first time you do ANYTHING

TillieC: especially technology

DavidWe: And on Thursday, Gail Hoskins (Gail H) is doing a presentation on ENC Online - a very important one, I might add

LynetteCS: ENC?

DavidWe had trouble the FIRST time he made stuffed cabbage, even

MiguelB joined the room.

DavidWe . o O (Eisenhower National Clearinghouse - www.enc.org)

DavidWe waves to Miguel

DavidWe: Hi, Miguel. Welcome

MiguelB: Hello David

GailH: May I blurb my Thursday event please?

DavidWe: Gail, would you like to say a few words?

DavidWe steps aside

GailH: Join Gail Hoskins, ENC senior outreach coordinator, to learn about a new FREE resource you'll want to request. ENC has just produced an all-new 2nd edition of its CD-ROM called Making Schools Work for Every Child. The contents of that CD-ROM are temporarily online so YOU can take a tour of the great resources it offers. You can request (free) up to 25 copies if you act now. Equity is everybody's concern, so take a sneak peak by going to <http://equity.enc.org/> and then join us for this tour of the contents. The online version of the CD-ROM contents will -- like ALL resources of <http://www.enc.org/> -- disappear at the end of September 2005 when ENC's funding from the U.S. Department of Education ends. So you'll want to request your CD-ROMs now (while staff is still around to mail them to you)! Gail will also explain what parts of ENC Online will be available free at the new fee-based <http://www.goenc.com/> and assure you that Focus Magazine will continue (in print, free, six times a year) -- but only if you re-subscribe now. Questions? <mailto:ghoskins@enc.org> for answers!

DavidWe: -

DavidWe . o O (a few, indeed!)

GailH: It was just one paste!

DavidWe commends Gail on one BIG paste

SusanR digests the enc info

DavidWe digests his dinner

TillieC: Gail is this in connection to the No Child left behind act?

GailH: Think about a diet -- and having just one piece of cake!

DavidWe: Good question, Tillie

MiguelB: If anyone is interested and is teaching algebra, I just created a lesson on factoring trinomials...

DavidWe thanks Miguel for that information

GailH: Not specifically, but NCLB has definitely "made" everyone more aware of the need for ALL children to be successful, etc.

DavidWe: Gail's just speaking a bit about her upcoming presentation in Tapped In (TI) on Thursday

BJB2: how can we access that lesson, Mike?

DavidWe runs to get a very interesting NYTimes opinion piece from today's paper

DavidWe . o O (brb)

MiguelB: www.trinom.blogspot.com or in my office on links

TillieC: Within the past 4 weeks, I've heard and seen the word "blogs" in TI. What on earth is it?

DavidWe . o O (WeB Logs == blog)

MiguelB: I plan to set up another lesson on parallel lines....

TillieC: well what is a WeB Log?

EmilyW: online journal

DavidWe: Emily, want to handle that question?

BJB2: they are like an interactive diary or journal online, Tillie

TillieC: I feel like such a doofus

EmilyW: write about whatever you want

DavidWe congratulates Tillie on spelling "doofus" correctly

DavidWe smiles

MiguelB: I just learned about blogs two weeks ago on tapped in....so don't feel bad

DavidWe: No need, Tillie. It's just a question of how much time SOME of us spend online

SusanR: I like the word doofus..can I steal it

EmilyW: I learned about them about 6 months ago

BJB2 . o O (hanging out in TI is very educational...I wouldn't have known about blogs if I hadn't attended discussions here)

DavidWe laughs

TillieC: sure thing. be my guest

DavidWe: There may be an import duty on that, Susan

DavidWe checks with the US Dept. of Education

SusanR: what is a "doofus"?

DavidWe: Tillie, want to explain?

TillieC: someone who feels really stupid

SusanR: just used Google...define:doofus

TillieC: so a blog is an online journal? Where do you keep it.

DavidWe . o O (online)

EmilyW: you can host them on different free blog hosting sites

DavidWe: There are places that offer free space for blogs

MiguelB: There is a free website where you can great blogs and post them

SusanR: 3 easy steps and you can create your own blog

JeffC: www.livejournal.com

EmilyW: I use blogger

DavidWe: So, before we get TOO sidetracked here...

JeffC: sign up there Tillie... ok... I'll shut up

DavidWe taps the chalkboard with his 39 inch yardstick

TillieC: I'm going to try it

SusanR: <http://www.blogger.com/start>

DavidWe: Great, Tillie

TillieC: ok my mouth is shut

DavidWe wants Susan to stay after class

DavidWe . o O (spell doofus a googleplex times)

GailH wants to stay too then!

SusanR: okay..I am all ears

JeffC tosses spitballs at David behind his back...

DavidWe: Oh, man!

DavidWe is prepared to call EVERYONE'S parents

TillieC: how do ya'll do that funny stuff

SusanR: I have been naughty lately!

GailH: Everyone please type: I am listening to David NOW

BJB2 looks around the room and wonders if anarchy is ruling?

DavidWe: What are the new people going to think of us - we're professional educators....I think

DavidWe laughs at Gail

SusanR: there must e a full moon

MiguelB: We are educators?

DavidWe: Anarchy has a better chance than me, that's for sure

BJB2 is listening to David now

JeffC . o O (we're professional educators who know how to throw spitballs)

DavidWe awards Jeff an A- in spitballs

GailH wants an award.

DavidWe: Okay, okay, okay...so...what have we learned and where is the test?

TillieC: I want a sticker

DavidWe laughs

DavidWe surrenders

JeffC: I didn't know there was going to be a test! No one said anything about a test. Is it on Quizstar?

DavidWe: As members of Tapped In...

DavidWe: You will all get a transcript of this session within minutes of logging out, this evening

GailH: Tillie, I hope you will return. We do learn about lots of great math/technology things here.

DavidWe: Some of you may refer to the transcript, while others burn it

GailH . o O (David is a great leader.)

TillieC: I'm the technology facilitator for my school. So I would love to learn more]

TillieC: when is the next one?

DavidWe: Additionally, Bj kindly created a "passageway" from ASO (After School Online) this room (Tapped In is a virtual building with rooms - you all can create an office of your own) to the MathEdTech Group room

MiguelB: David can you send me a complete copy of the transcript...

DavidWe: We've been doing THESE sessions once a month, but that might double...

SusanR: we are warming up for our fall Back to School Open House, Tillie

GailH: Set <http://tappedin.org/tappedin/do/CalendarAction> to YOUR time zone and check out all that is offered.

JeffC: Tillie: 1) Click the Tapped In tab in the top frame 2) Click the Calendar subtab 3) Set your timezone 4) Look at the Calendar for upcoming events

DavidWe: A lot of what your are learning can be learned at any time AND...

DavidWe: There are regularly scheduled Tips and Tricks tours on how to use Tapped In

TillieC: Hey I'm ahead of that game. I did that about 2 weeks ago

DavidWe: Thanks, Miguel. I'll send that to you later on this evening

MiguelB: Thanks...

DavidWe nods

DavidWe: Any other questions, Dawn, Lynette, Tillie?

LynetteCS: none

DavidWe . o O (or comments, Gail, Jeff, Bj, Emily?)

DawnBat: No, I will look into the URLs some more. Thanks

TillieC: How do I get to the MathEd Tech group office?

DavidWe: I would encourage any of you interested in math and science to come to Gail's session on Thursday at 7pm

BJB2 admires David's tenacity...and he leaves us smiling!

EmilyW: I am excited about the mathtools

DavidWe hands out ice cream cones with everyone's favorite flavor

DavidWe: Glad to hear that, Emily

DawnBat: Any more of her sessions coming up? I leave for New Jersey Thurs.

MiguelB: Sorry I am on a diet...no ice cream for me...

GailH will eat her cone quietly and neatly and not throw it at anyone!

BJB2: Tillie, look under featured passageways

DavidWe: And for you newbies...the more you have the chance to login to Tapped In and use it, the more quickly you will become comfortable with it

TillieC: I learn something new everytime

EmilyW: I am very interested in writing about/reviewing educational websites

EmilyW: especially math ones

DavidWe: One other thing I WOULD like to share...

GailH listens quietly.

DavidWe: I was really reading this while eating some salad, 15 minutes before we started this evening

TillieC: Thank you David for having patience with me

DavidWe: From the New York Times....

DavidWe: No problem, Tillie. Thanks for joining us

DavidWe: In Illinois they have created a standard for "social and emotional learning"

DavidWe: The Opinion piece in today's NYTimes - www.nytimes.com - you may have to register to be able to read it

DawnBat: Wow, that sounds interesting

TillieC left the room.

DavidWe: The title is "No Emotion Left Behind"

EmilyW: bye all, gotta go, great session

DavidWe waves bye to Emily

DawnBat: I'm happy to see people are recognizing our students' feelings.

DavidWe: Discussing how learning is clearly facilitated when students are also learning about "citizenship" and to learn to recognize and manage emotions

GailH: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/08/16/opinion/16shriver.html>

DawnBat: That's great, I will look at it tonight

DavidWe: Prof. of psychology at U. Illinois at Chicago

DavidWe: Thanks, Gail

DavidWe: It's very interesting AND compelling

JeffC: Join Math Resources K-20+ all... if you haven't done so already.

DavidWe: I'm happy to hang out and answer other questions if anyone wants to hang out

LynetteCS: Thanks all, I need to go.

DawnBat: Thanks David, I'll be back. Have a great night

SusanR: Join The K to 3+ Resource Room...if it suits your needs

DavidWe: We have created an easy way to get to the MathEdTech Group - a place where I will hopefully make resources about this topic available

DavidWe: Welcome, folks

GailH: But I want to join it!

MiguelB: Well David I no longer teach math and am now a social studies teacher...but I can't get the math out of my blood

DavidWe understands Miguel's "problem"

Room: MathEdTech Group Room

BjB joined the room.

TillieC: I got it

BjB smiles...good for you!

BjB: did you join the group?

TillieC: how do I do that

BjB: on the Welcome note...

BjB: is This is the group room for MathEdTech

BjB: click on the green i

BjB: that should show you the group ID page

TillieC: ok

BjB: just click on JOIN THIS GROUP

TillieC: ok I think I did it

BjB: once you've joined, the group will be added to your favorite places menu

TillieC: got it

BjB: and you are automatically subscribed to the discussion board

TillieC: thanks so much. I believe that I just need to play around with it. but that all takes time

BjB nods in agreement

BjB: I've been a member of Tapped In since 1998

BjB: and I still find new things to learn each time I log in

TillieC: wow that's wonderful. I just heard about it from an online class that I am taking

BjB: The people are what make Tapped In, Tillie!

BjB: I'm glad you're a member of the community

TillieC: that's where I have to go now. to class.

BjB waves bye.

TillieC: have a great night and I look forward to more discussions with you

TillieC left the room (signed off).